

AN UNHOLY ALLIANCE.

Third Party Leaders Working in Cleveland's Interests--Southern States Flooded With Democratic Literature From the Office of the "Economist"--Pith of the Pamphlets--McCune and Tillman.

[The *Globe-Democrat* of November 4 had the following special from Washington, which is full of significance at this time. We had private information from Washington that these circulars were being published by the *Economist* office, or we might lay the whole matter aside as campaign blarney. We would not wish to do Dr. McCune injustice, but this matter needs explanation, and if he can clear himself from the suspicion now resting upon him, we shall be glad to set him right. We want no more Livingstones, however, filling responsible positions in this reform movement.—Ed.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 3.—The biggest surprise that has developed during the campaign in this city is the discovery that some of the most trusted leaders of the Farmers' Alliance are secretly working in harmony with and under the direction of the democratic national committee, and are using the name of the Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union to spread the doctrines of the democratic platform and to advocate the election of Grover Cleveland throughout the south and west, wherever members of the Farmers' Alliance have an organization and can be reached with misleading pamphlets. The scheme is one of the boldest pieces of political trickery that has been unearthed this year. The facts in the case, as given below, are made public for the first time through the columns of the *Globe-Democrat*.

The south and several of the western states have been flooded for some time past with thousands of copies of six campaign pamphlets bearing these titles:

1. The Farmers' Alliance and the currency issue. Let us read and reflect, and proceed on lines of moderation and conservatism, that we may act wisely. Prepared by the Lecture Bureau of the N. F. and I. U., J. F. Tillman, general manager and director, Washington, D. C.
2. A protest and appeal.
3. The force bill is alive. Recent republican declarations in favor of that revolutionary measure.
4. An open letter from J. F. Tillman, secretary of the executive board of the National Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union, to the truth-seeking citizens of this great nation, gives reliable statistics as to the financial legislation of the past two congresses, showing the effect of the same upon the productive interests of the country.
5. The force bill. Sent out by the Lecture Bureau of the National Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union, J. F. Tillman, general manager and director, Washington, D. C.
6. More money. A sound, effective and constitutional plan for the immediate relief of the farming and laboring people, and the just and good alike for all classes. Sent out by J. F. Tillman, general manager and director of the Lecture Bureau of the National Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union.

These pamphlets, though written by and issued under the direction of Mr. Tillman, secretary of the executive board of the National Farmers' Alliance, are straight-out democratic campaign documents. They hew close to the line of the Chicago platform, and advocate the principles of the democratic party in the strongest terms.

PITH OF THE PAMPHLETS.

In pamphlet No. 1, for example, after reviewing the policy of the republican party, is a sub head entitled, "How State Bank Issues Will Benefit the Farmers," and an analysis entitled, "The Democratic Party's Solution of the Money Problem," starting off as follows:

The history of the democratic party shows that it has always favored a policy

of safe expansion of the currency, and has opposed the centralizing tendencies of the federalists and republicans, etc.

Pamphlet No. 2, under the heading of an "Address by J. F. Tillman, general manager and director of the Lecture Bureau of the National Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union," contains the following startling declaration: "It must be evident now to every intelligent, fair-minded man that the presidency of the United States for the next term will be held by either Grover Cleveland or the present incumbent, Benjamin Harrison, for certainly no candid mind can, under existing facts, hope for or expect the election of Gen. Weaver or the prohibition candidate. This being true, it is necessary for me to refer to the teachings of the leading candidates in this address, so far only as they tend to throw light upon the issues involved between the democratic and republican parties," and then follows an attack on the republican party which leaves no doubt that Mr. Tillman's only design is to strengthen Cleveland with the third party.

The pamphlet, "The Force Bill is Alive," is made up of quotations from republican papers and speakers, including extracts from an alleged interview with Cabot Lodge, all intended to set off the southern bugbear in its most startling proportions.

In his "open letter," Mr. Tillman attempts to prove the charges of extravagance on the part of the Fifty-first congress, and says: "In the light of all the incontrovertible facts presented in the speeches of Representatives Holman, Sayers and Dockery, obvious extracts from which are printed in the pages that follow. I deem it my duty to say to the people that they should no longer be deceived by a comparison between the Fifty-first and Fifty-second congress, which does not show that the extravagance of the Fifty-first congress forced the heavy expenditures of the Fifty-second congress, and that the tendency of the extravagance of the Fifty-first congress is to impoverish the country by sapping the life-blood from all productive pursuits, and reducing the producer to a condition of abject slavery."

In the pamphlet entitled "More Money," Tillman booms the wild-cat-money plank in the democratic platform in black type and these words: "The plan to repeal the tax of 10 per cent. upon all bills issued by other than national banks, and the establishment of state banks of issue, is practicable; it decentralizes the money power; it will prevent the control of the currency by a few; it meets the approbation of more people than any other scheme, and it localizes our currency."

PRINTED AT THE OFFICE OF THE "ECONOMIST."

Taken singly and collectively, these pamphlets are an open repudiation of Weaver and the People's party platform, and an ingenious advocacy of Grover Cleveland and the democratic principles, ostensibly coming with the force of direct issue from the literary bureau attached to the Washington headquarters of the Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union.

A fact that lends the weight of additional authority to these utterances is that, according to reliable information, these pamphlets were printed in the office of the *National Economist* at Washington, the national organ of the Farmers' Alliance. This circumstance, however, is carefully ignored in the documents. The editor of the *Economist* is C. W. McCune, and Mr. McCune is chairman of the executive board of the alliance, and the leading light of the organization. This board is composed of three members, of which McCune, as

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chairman, and J. F. Tillman, as secretary, constitute a majority.

The general expression of the pamphlets is proof in itself of the fact that both McCune and Tillman are working in the interests of the democratic party, but, by way of cumulative evidence, the information is furnished the correspondent of the *Globe-Democrat* by credible authority, that for some time past, emissaries from democratic headquarters in New York have been in Washington in close negotiation with parties who direct the affairs of the *National Economist*. One of the principal men in this deal is said to be E. P. Speer, correspondent of several southern papers, and also a trusted clerk in the national headquarters of the democratic party. Speer spent a great part of his time for a week at the *Economist* office, returning to New York about a week ago, his stay here covering the period during which the greater number of the pamphlets were mailed. It is estimated that about 125,000 copies of each pamphlet were sent out, the list of names being obtained from the mailing list of the *National Economist*. This is probably a small estimate, as the paper alone is said to have that many names on its list, and as other lists besides this were probably used.

McCUNE'S ITALIAN HAND.

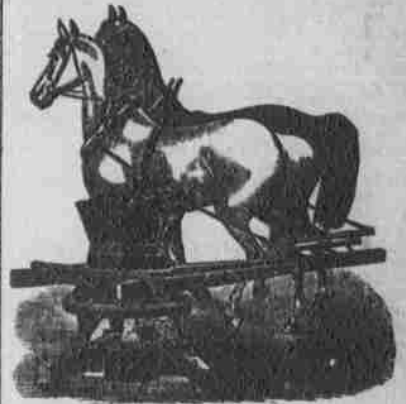
McCune is known to have been in New York on a mysterious mission for five weeks past, returning to Washington every Saturday, and departing the following Monday, and is suspected of spending most of his time as an adviser to the democratic national committee.

The Farmers' Alliance editor came to Washington from Texas about three years ago. He was connected with that state with an alliance business exchange, which is said to have failed for something like \$3,000 during his connection with it. Recently he declared in an editorial that the *Economist* has never paid a dividend, and in his opinion never will. In view of this utterance, men who do not like Mr. McCune too well say that he lives in a \$10,000 house, and report that quite recently he paid off a mortgage of \$3,500, while his living expenses are not under \$4,000 a year. On top of all this, McCune is believed to be the man who wrote the pamphlets, for the reason that Tillman is not credited with the ability to write them, and because they possess the ear-mark of McCune's diction and political reasoning.

An interesting fact connected with these disclosures is that there is no such thing as a "Lecture Bureau of the National Farmers' Alliance." Such a bureau was talked of, but never perfected, and hence has no existence. Tillman came to Washington from Tennessee. He was at one time secretary of the state of Tennessee, but got side-tracked in the farmers' movement, and came to the capital two years ago as a member of the executive committee of the alliance. Since the opening of the campaign he and McCune have been "the majority" of the executive board, and have run things pretty much as they chose.

The disclosure of the scheme which these gentlemen are charged with working so successfully up to the present, has created the liveliest kind of a sensation in the small circle of alliance men now in the city, and some racy developments are expected when the true character of the pamphlets become known to Taubeneck and the third party leaders in other cities. The entire matter will be laid before the executive council of the alliance,

and a complete investigation will be insisted on. The investigation will in all probability cover charges that Tillman and McCune have been bribed by the democratic national committee to debauch their trust as officials of the organization, and accuse them of using the name of the National Farmers' Alliance for the purpose of secretly furthering the election of Grover Cleveland.



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